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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JULY 16, 2002

PETITION OF

VERIZON VIRGINIA INC.

CASE NO. PUC-2002-00050

For Extended Local Service  
from Verizon Virginia Inc.'s  
Gainesboro Exchange to its  
Stephens City Exchange

FINAL ORDER

In October 2001, telephone customers in Verizon Virginia Inc.'s ("Verizon Virginia") Gainesboro Exchange petitioned the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for Extended Local Service ("ELS") to the Stephens City Exchange of Verizon Virginia. On March 7, 2002, the Commission received a cost study from Verizon Virginia for the Gainesboro Exchange that was used to estimate the change in monthly rates that would result from the requested extension of local service.

Pursuant to the provisions of § 56-484.2 of the Code of Virginia, by Order dated April 19, 2002, the Commission directed Verizon Virginia to poll its Gainesboro Exchange customers to determine whether a majority of those customers would be willing to pay an increase in rates for local calling to its Stephens City Exchange. The Order further directed Verizon Virginia to

file the results of its poll with the Commission on or before June 18, 2002.

On June 17, 2002, Verizon Virginia filed the results of its poll. In its filing, Verizon Virginia noted that 1,965 ballots were mailed on May 6, 2002, to its Gainesboro Exchange customers and 687 (40 percent) were returned. The results further reflect that of the ballots returned, 307 (44.7 percent) voted "yes," and 380 (55.3 percent) voted "no."

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of the matter, is of the opinion and finds that because a majority of Gainesboro Exchange customers voted against extension of local service to the Stephens City Exchange, the petition should be denied.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- (1) The petition is hereby denied.
- (2) There being nothing further to be done in this matter, this matter is hereby dismissed.